

MONTHLY MEETING

Friday March 18, 2016

7:30pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church

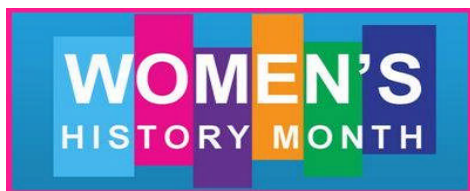
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

Meet in the Sanctuary

License Testing 6pm

DX Interest Group 6:30pm

License Testing Results	2
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G.K. Parkin (1901-1990) of San Rafael shown at age 15 as GSO in 1916

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Gordon West, WB6NOA, Talks VHF and UHF Tropospheric Ducting



Via a Skype internet link, Gordon West, WB6NOA, explains, with visuals and live audio, why radio signals on 2 meters and on UHF travel well beyond line of sight during summer months.

Listen to hams regularly chatting SIMPLEX from the Santa Cruz mountains down to Southern California on 2 meters and 440 MHz. No linking nor repeaters needed. No satellites - just some hot air!

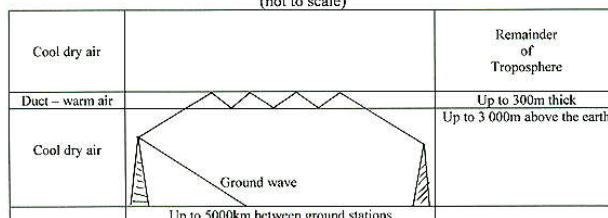
Imagine hearing a 2 meter signal from HAWAII, 2500 miles away, coming in for DAYS during July! No linking, no satellites, all from HOT air! (hams are good at that!)

This will be a fun evening of range extension tropo ducting as explained by WB6NOA. Hear some radio signals that you will find hard to believe...all due to some hot air!

The meeting this month will be upstairs in the sanctuary, as the church needs the usual meeting room. So please park in the upper (north) parking lot when you arrive.

73, Vice President Will Dickson, WB6YGJ

Tropospheric Ducting - Simplified
(not to scale)



When you purchase at Amazon dot com smile, a portion of your purchase is donated to our club.

Go to:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>



Please welcome these newcomers to our hobby and congratulate those who upgraded. Be sure to answer on the radio when you hear them call. Also, thank you very much to Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, and his Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for helping others become amateur radio operators.

Vadim Krasnoiarov, Walnut Creek	T-G	KM6AUV
Alan Wandesforde, Lafayette	G - E	K6AWT
Qian Jones, Walnut Creek	T	KM6AUW
Andrew M. Kennedy II, Moraga	G	K6AMK
Gerhard Stofer, Concord	T	KM6AUX
Nikolaus Chanda, Martinez	T	KM6AUY
Mircea Polifrone, Concord	G	KK6IDC
Aileen Devlin, Lafayette	T	KM6AVA
Christian Hedberg, Benicia	T	KM6AVB
Scott A. Miles, Walnut Creek	T - G	KM6AVC
James Devlin, Lafayette	T	KM6AVD

T = Technician G = General
T - G = Technician upgrade to General
G - E = General upgrade to Extra

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP.
DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN **FULL COLOR** AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc> Page 2

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 288-1730

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

President - Mike Patterson, N6JGA
Vice President - Will Dickson, WB6YGG
Secretary - Dick Fletcher, AF9RF
Treasurer - Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO
Technical Committee Chair
Jim Siemons, AF6PU

Directors At Large
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD
Janice Fujii, KG6VTD Francis O'Leary, KF6FRJ

Emergency Coordinator - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

PACIFICON 2016
Chair: (Vacant)
Registration: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Secretary: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Web Page: Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Membership Chair - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP
mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

Website - David Schild, KK6CQX
Repeater Trustee - Jay Caldis, KT6Y
Education & Training Chair - John Primus, AF6RJ
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Outreach Coordinator - Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Field Day Chair—Vacant
Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV
Holiday Party - Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Trailer - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX

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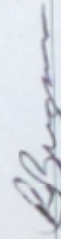
Certificate of Appreciation

In recognition for
Volunteering for the
Red Kettle Christmas
Campaign
2015

Mount Diablo
Amateur Radio Club

The Salvation Army
Serving
Contra Costa County




Ralph Brigman Red Kettle Coordinator


Major Glen Madsen
Commanding Officer



PRESIDENT'S QTC

Daylight Savings Time arrived last Sunday, costing us all an hour of sleep. But we can use that time for ham radio, so all is good. We can start by signing up for the Public Service Events the Club supports every year. The first two are only a month away - and on the same day, April 17th. The next one is two weeks later, with two more a week after that. It's going to be a busy season and we need you to help. See the list of events and details on how to sign up on our web site at <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/public-service>. Contact our Public Service Chair, Pete Harris, KE6ZIW with any questions the web page doesn't answer.

Our Technical Committee has been dealing with some issues on our repeaters. Another repeater in Coalinga is operating on the same frequency pair as our 2 meter system, and has applied for coordination. We have objected because we have a number of users in that area that will be subject to significant interference, should it continue. The Committee is also working on some misuse issues on our systems. We hope to have them resolved soon.

On the good side, the Committee has converted the control telephone line to Mt. Diablo from a standard line to Google Voice, saving the Club over \$550 per year. Also, they're working on plans to improve Internet service to our systems on North Peak. And they're considering starting up a Radio Direction Finding (RDF) team, with the ability to find the location of transmissions that repeatedly interfere with our systems. If it catches on, it may become of service to other organizations as well. If you're interested in RDF, with experience or not, contact our Chair, Jim Siemons, AF6PU, at jim@siemons.com or at the Club phone number, (925) 288-1730.

Our Education & Training Committee just completed another successful Technician Class licensing course. A General Class course will be starting March 31st. If you want to upgrade or just want to learn more about HF, see <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/education/Classes-2016> for more information and to sign up.

Jim Siemons, AF6PU, our Outreach Chair, has some new Club banners on order. Hopefully they'll be here in time for the meeting. We'll use them at Field Day, Pacificon and Public Service events.

Pacificon planning is continuing to progress. We'll have some announcements to make before long. One is that the Hotel page is up and ready to take your reservations. Start at <http://www.pacificon.org/registration/hotel> and reserve your room. The special Pacificon rate sells out fast. As this is being written, the registration system of the conference itself isn't quite ready yet, but will be any day now. It might even be up by the time you read this. See <http://www.pacificon.org/> and keep checking, as updates will be ongoing.

Next month is Auction night. There will be some great stuff being sold, thanks to some generous donations. So start getting your excess gear ready to sell and plan to be ready for some lively bidding. We start early on Auction Night to get everything done, so be there by 7:00 pm for the start of bidding. Doors will open at 6:00 pm for sellers to bring their stuff, get it registered and ready to go. See <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/auction> for details. Also remember there will be no business meeting, speaker, license testing or DX Special Interest Group at the April meeting. It's all Auction that night.

We welcome two new members this month: Scott Miles, WB6PQM, and Alan Wandesforde, K6AWT.

I've saved the big news for last. The speaker for our meeting this month will be Gordon West, WB6NOA! Gordo will be coming to us via Skype. We all know Gordo from his annual appearances at Pacificon, his weekly Ham Nation video podcast, his nation-wide training programs, his many books and his all-around relentless promotion of amateur radio. Plus, he's just a great guy to be around. Don't miss this extra-special meeting with Gordo.

Finally, the meeting this month will be upstairs in the sanctuary again, as the church needs the usual meeting room. So park in the upper parking lot when you arrive. We'll be back in the regular room for April.

This is the best ham radio club around. We need your to help us keep it that way. Please volunteer for the Club. There are so many things we do, there must be something that interests you. It doesn't have to be that time consuming, but can be very valuable to the Club. Thank you.

General Meeting Minutes February 19, 2016

Presided over by Mike Patterson, N6JGA, President

Reported by Richard Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by the President who expressed greetings to all and led them in the salute to our national flag.

The evening's presentation preceded the general meeting this month with Bart Lee, K6VK speaking about the Very Low Frequency Radio environment, naming it "the cradle of radio". The presentation completed at 8:25 PM.

The Club business meeting started at 8:35 PM beginning with the approval of the January meeting's minutes.

It was noted that the March meeting will be held in the church's "Sanctuary" and the program will be presented by Gordon West.

The Treasurer gave figures relating to Pacificon and the club accounts in general. She answered member's questions about some accounts and fiscal activities.

President Mike reminded the members about the April club auction and spoke about the status of the club website.

John Primus, AF6RJ briefed the members on the status of the recent class saying that 79% of the original enrollees are attending regularly. The end of class testing will take place on the 3d of March. He added that we were working with other clubs, helping with their training.

Membership Chairman Tom Deeble said that he was getting out this year's membership cards and that they would reflect any recent changes that were made.

Pete Harris, our volunteer communications leader, stated that he has today posted a listing on our website of future activities that we will be supporting.

Jim Siemons, our Tech Committee Chair, spoke about current changes made to the D-Star repeater and improvements made to the Analog side. He also explained the operation of some nets.

The evening's testing leader, Larry Loomer, reported 14 test takers this evening resulting in 9 new Technicians, 4 upgrades to General and 1 Extra Class upgrade.

Our President, noting no unfinished or new business, adjourned this month's meeting at 9:30 PM.

Post meeting, Jim Siemons, AF6PU, held an impromptu get-together dealing with D-Star.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Fletcher, AF9RF



Club Board Meeting minutes March 7, 2016

Presided over by President, Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Recorded by R. Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

The meeting took place starting at 7:04 pm in the “Back Room” of the Black Bear restaurant in Walnut Creek

There was a motion, which was seconded and approved, to accept the minutes of the previous month’s meeting minutes

President Mike covered plans for future meetings describing them.

The board discussed the need for changes in the Pacificon meetings. Those features and aspects will be reviewed.

The monthly Treasurer’s report was handed out and she spoke to all about the current activities therein. The major item was the renaming of repeater funds to allow covering other club equipment as well. An accord was reached with everyone. She said that she had contacted ARRL’s liability insurance agent and found there to be substantial savings by using that company. A discussion ensued and a motion was made and passed to purchase MDARC’s liability insurance from that company. There was discussion about the need to let members know more about these types of activities and procedures. All agreed.

Education and training was brought up and an information sheet was handed out with figures denoting student counts, their successes and achievements.

It was noted that there was no recent activity with Emergency Communications.

Jim, AF6PU talked about the uses for club paraphernalia such as mugs, banners, etc. He also spoke about MDARC “commercials” on nets.

The Board members discussed Pacificon saying that Gordon West will be attending, and to be sure to reserve early and they also noted that there would be a meeting the next night.

The Tech Committee said that recently the 220 Mhz repeater power was drastically reduced and the necessary equipment was sent to repair and is back now and working well. They reported on other activities and noted having troubles with spurious touch-tone activity. There was some talk about doing away with IRLP. The board discussed going to the club at a meeting for permission to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fletcher, AF9RF
Secretary

Addendum : 3 /12 /2016

Item 1 - The reference to ‘meetings’ should read ‘forums’

Item 2 – The Treasurer was to investigate the quality ratings of the subject companies not make any decisions.

Item 3 – The following item was completely omitted from published minutes.

“Location for Club official documents” was discussed and it was discovered that we had a file cabinet in the Club storage unit suitable for that purpose.

R. Fletcher, Secretary

Ham Radio Course Forming Now!

Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club and SATERN

is holding an 8 week course where you can
upgrade your Amateur Radio License to
General Class

The General Class license is your gateway to all the world-wide
Amateur bands of excitement and Emergency Communications on
Ham Radio...and you do NOT need to learn Morse code!

This course is to upgrade your current
Technician License



Course begins on...

Thursday March 31st

7-9 pm Except the

First Class starts at 6:30

The Salvation Army

3950 Clayton Road, Concord 94521



Registration is required.

Class is FREE but there is a \$5 materials fee and Textbook if
needed is about \$27. *Each student must have full access to a copy of the
text.*

Follow up training License testing will also be available.

To sign up email: HamRadioClass@gmail.com

ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM



IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



KENWOOD



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V-V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



YAESU
The radio



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



5 Ways to Shop!

- RETAIL LOCATIONS - Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL - All store locations

ANAHEIM, CA
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA
(877) 892-1745

SUNNYVALE, CA
(877) 892-1749

PORTLAND, OR
(800) 765-4267

PHOENIX, AZ
(800) 559-7388

WOODBIDGE, VA
(800) 444-4799

PLANO, TX
(877) 455-8750

BURBANK, CA
(877) 892-1748

SAN DIEGO, CA
(877) 520-9623

NEW CASTLE, DE
(800) 644-4476

DENVER, CO
(800) 444-9476

ATLANTA, GA
(800) 444-7927

SALEM, NH
(800) 444-0047

ONLINE STORE
WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

New Store!

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.



The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

www.mdarc.org



FIRST CLASS



Affiliated
Club



<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/> Digital ATV Output 1244.500
Digital ATV Input 1292.500

ATV Inputs: 1289.25 MHz AM; 1270.000 FM pl 192.8 915.0 AM 427.0 AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735+ (107.2 PL)

or 145.410 -- (107.2 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

February and March 2016 Club Calendar

Friday March 18, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting - PARK IN NORTH LOT Our Saviors Lutheran Church, SANCTUARY 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Saturday April 2, 2016	8:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg
April 4, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC Board Meeting Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek
Friday April 15, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette